FEBRUARY 2001

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THE DEDDINGTON NEWS

February 2001

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EDITORIAL

16 pages, a bulging postbag, articles held over until next month… There is one thing more disconcerting than too much copy – too little. So to all contributors and readers, welcome back after the January break ! This issue includes a report on the highly successful FDL Booksale last December, a double helping of Parish Council news, reference to the global nature of the Christmas Eve Carols and a review of *Little Red Riding Hood*. The seasonal pantomime continues to hold us in thrall, performers and audience alike. Please read page 9. We are advised of a possible P.C. election, our help is needed with the Traffic Audit and our views are sought on the proposed Heyford Park development. No participation, no input. Also on page 9 is the news that the excellent Deddington Health Centre is increasing its number of surgeries. In place of his usual *On The Farm* article, George Fenemore replies to points raised in the December Post bag. I for one have been on a steep CAP learning curve since reading his letter. If farming issues concern you, please send in your views. This is an important debate.
Round-up. It would be a shame if the Deddington Youth Club failed to find new Leaders. Ged Rhind reports that 84 boys and girls are now members of the Deddington Colts Football Club. Molly Neild and Frank Steiner appear 'in their own write'. Josephine Hawksley recalls the past, Rebecka Blenntoft gives a personal slant to the present. Maureen Dew has designed a relevant cover for 2001 and our thanks to Liz Handley for taking care of *Calling All Clubs* during February and March. Kristin Thompson

N.B. All March and April Diary entries for the March DN to Jean Flux by Wednesday, February 14. After that, please send to Editor.

Fridays: Coffee morning in aid of Katharine House, Parish Church, 10am. - noon.
Fridays: Babies and Toddler Group, Windmill Centre, 9.30 - 11.30 am.
Fridays: British Legion, Prize Bingo and " Play Your Cards Right" at 8 pm

FEBRUARY DIARY

Mon	5	Monday Morning Club coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10 am – noon. (p.7)
Wed	7	Friendship Club: Professor Holt, *A London Hospital*, Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm. (p.6)
Wed	7	Deddington Ladies, Holly tree, 8pm.
Fri	9	Deddington Babies & Toddlers Group, trip to Butterfly Farm near Stratford. (p.7)
Fri	9	Monday Morning Club bus for the Apollo, Oxford leaves Market Place at 6 pm. (p.7)
Tue	13	WI: Mrs Kath Morris, *A Week in the Life of a Fund Raiser*, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm. (p.6)
Wed	14	Dedd History Society: M Graham, *Oxfordshire in the Second World War*, Windmill, 7.30 pm.
Tue	20	**COPY DATE FOR MARCH DEDDINGTON NEWS**
Wed	21	Friendship Club: Beetle Drive, Windmill Centre, 2.30 pm.
Wed	21	Parish Council Meeting. Town Hall, 7.30 pm.

MARCH DIARY

Thu	1	Heyford Park Road Show Exhibition, Windmill Centre, from 7 pm. (p.9)
Thu	1	Briefing for Deddington Parking Audit, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm. (p.9)
Mon	5	Monday Morning Club coffee morning, Holly Tree, 10 am – noon.
Wed	7	Deddington Ladies, Holly Tree, 8 pm.
Sat	10	PTA Quiz Night, Windmill Centre, 7.30pm. (p.4)
Tue	13	WI: AGM and Beetle Drive, Holly Tree, 7.30 pm.
Tue	20	**COPY DATE FOR APRIL DEDDINGTON NEWS**
Wed	21	Deddington Parking Audit 7 am. to 7 pm. (p.9)
Wed	21	Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30 pm.
Fri	23	Induction of Rev. Dr. Hugh White, Parish Church, 7.30pm.
Sat	24	Deddington Parking Audit 7 am. to 7 pm.

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Note of meeting on 13 Dec 2000, Town Hall

Attended by Cllrs Flux (chair), Bell, Clarke, Clinch, Cosgrove, Cox, Davies, Hart, Hill, Newey, Swash, Todd, Walker, the Clerk, and 5 members of the public.

10-MINUTE OPEN FORUM

Mr Robin Nash, of The Paddocks, Deddington, who owns the cemetery plot where the late Mr Michael Coleman was buried by mistake, said that important questions remained unanswered. Why had there still been no meeting between all those involved? Why was the Coleman family not contacted until 2 weeks after the mistake was discovered? When would there be a satisfactory resolution? The Chairman apologised yet again and confirmed that PC's solicitors had the issue in hand.

VACANCY

For personal reasons, Cllr Harper has resigned from PC. She was thanked for her services. Mr Martin Ellis, *The Red Lion*, Deddington, who came second in the September election won by Cllr Hart, has laid claim to the vacancy. However, the correct procedure is for PC to post a Notice of Vacancy. If 10 parishioners request it, an election will be held within 60 working days. Otherwise PC can co-opt. PC to liaise with *The Deddington News* editor on publicity.

AFFORDABLE (LOW COST) HOUSING

1. Cllrs now have a list of approved tenants.
2. Landscaping of site is not as agreed and maintenance will cost more. PC to renegotiate funding with CDC.
3. PC confirmed they have never agreed that shared-cost housing may be offered to other than first-time buyers.

CLIFTON/DEDDINGTON FOOTPATH

OCC is unlikely to proceed with this footpath unless PC "assists" with funding (amount unspecified). PC to prioritise the pavement through Clifton village, making the case in consultation with Clifton residents.

LIBRARY

The booksale on 3 December raised £1,000. The Friends now have £1,200 towards the £2,000 target. PC thanked all concerned.

PLANNING

PC no objection to: (i) No 1 The Daedings - 2-storey extension. (ii) 7 The Daedings - porch, rear extension and conservatory. (iii) 2 Philcote St - revised plans for conservatory. (iv) Nos 1-4 Bachelors Row, Hempton - new turning circle.

CDC approvals (v) Sunnyside, Hopcraft Lane - garage and alterations to roofs. (vi) No 1, Manor Farm Barns - fell sycamore. (vii) The Willows, Chapel Close, Clifton - porch, rear extension and alterations to roofs.

DEDDINGTON SALEROOMS

Despite PC meeting the architect, and writing to CDC, the front elevation is not as agreed when permission was given to demolish the old, well-liked shopfront. The unduly large and obstructive hoarding is still in place. There is also a query over the position of the new dormer. PC to pursue.

UPPER HEYFORD

PC expressed concern that Deddington Health Centre and Fire Station will be responsible for services on the new development and that the base hospital will be demolished.

HEDGEROWS

Deddington Naturalists have been recognised by Nature Conservancy. Grants are available for tree/hedgerow management, restoration of milestones etc.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- OCC will be pressed to provide white lines along edges of Clifton and Hempton roads.
- Hedge at Clifton Road/Earls Lane corner is dangerously overgrown. Mr Nobbs to be alerted.
- Bowls Club request for financial help is under review.
- PC to be represented by Cllr Hart on Windmill Committee and Cllr Davies on Board of School Governors.
- Out-of-date advertising matter must be removed from traffic lights etc.
- Deddington Arms unauthorised 'A'-board is still there. PC to pursue with OCC.

MILLENNIUM MAP

Deddington Map Group presented a progress report and financial statement. Cllrs Flux, Newey & Clinch to work with the Group on the next steps.

PARISH FINANCES

Invoices passed for payment totalled £2,314.62.

Investments totalled £540,251.65, of which £500,000 Bradford & Bingley @ 6.25% variable on 120 days; £28,000 Treasury Stock @ 5.0975% fixed; £4,601.12 @ 3.5% on 14 days; £7,183.04 @ 2.3% + £737.49 @ 2.1%, both overnight. When reviewing its investment policy, PC is restricted to "no risk" categories such as joint stock banks and building societies.

PC THEN WENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

See following page for note of 17 Jan 2001 meeting.

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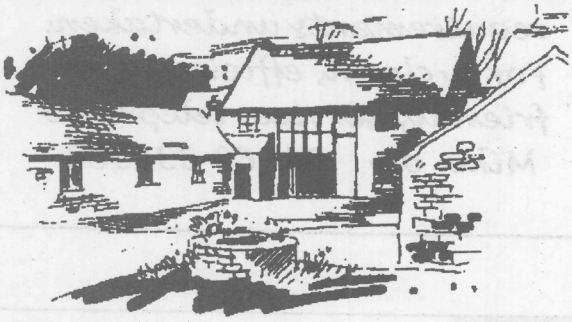

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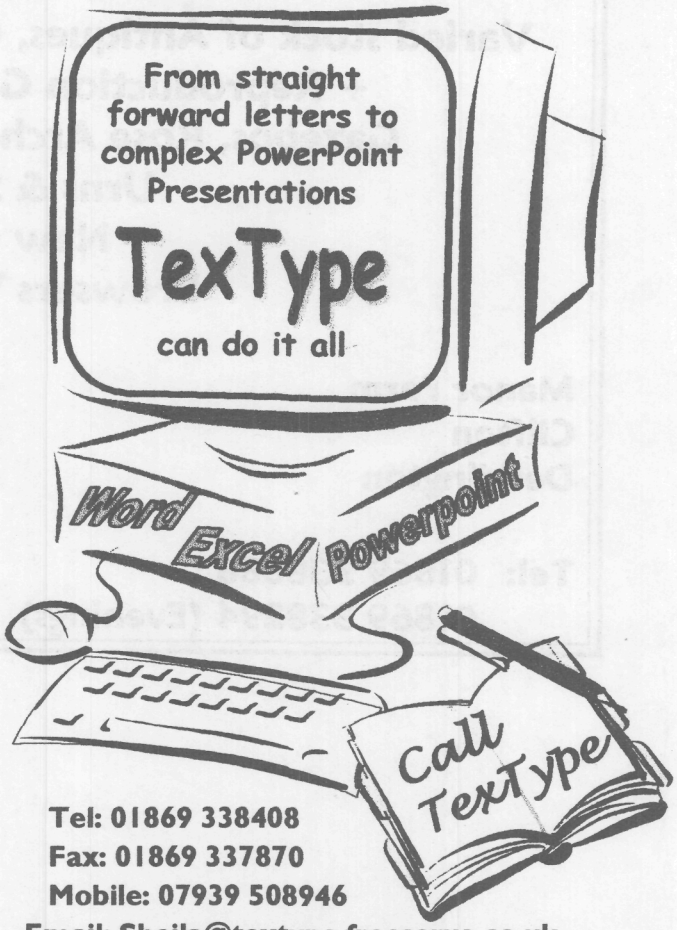

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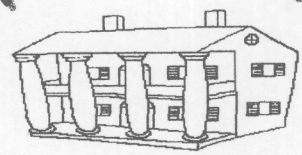

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DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Note of meeting on 17 Jan 2001, Town Hall

Attended by Cllrs Flux (chair), Bell, Clarke, Cosgrove, Cox, Davies, Hart, Hill, Newey, Swash, Todd, Walker, the Clerk, D/Cllr O'Sullivan and 2 members of the public.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

Nomination forms, available from the Clerk or Bodicote House, must be returned 1st to 9th February. If there is more than one candidate, poll cards will be issued and an election held on 8 March. [PLEASE SEE PAGE 9 FOR MORE INFORMATION].

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

1. PC to write to CDC Housing Dept denying they had ever been consulted on, let alone agreed to, shared-ownership properties being offered to other than first-time buyers.
2. Residents to be consulted on what form of boundary - fence, high hedge, low hedge, none - they want with Hempton Road, and what type of children's play equipment they preferred.
3. Present whereabouts of Time Capsule to be established.

PRECEPT

After considerable discussion, PC reaffirmed 3 principles (1) maintain current level of services to the parish (2) protect capital, 50% of which is already earmarked (3) eliminate deficit. To achieve this requires an increase in precept to £15,000, which equates to an extra £2.18 per person per year at Band D level. PC approved nem. con. Grants of £200 each were awarded to Victim Support, Macmillan Nurses and Katharine House Hospice.

PLANNING

(i) Proposed extension to *barn conversion on Earls Lane*, which would utilise part of a wall belonging to Castle House, is the subject of legal advice. (ii) Revision to proposed development behind *Pretoria House, Market Place*, lacks essential information and was referred back. D/Cllr O'Sullivan undertook to raise this with CDC.

CDC Approvals two-storey extension to *No 1, The Daedings*; and new turning circle at *Bachelor's Row, Hempton*.

DEDDINGTON SALEROOMS

CDC do not reply to PC's letters and appear to be satisfied with the so-called restoration. P/Cllrs, with one exception, described it as "appalling" and not what had been agreed. PC to start procedure for referring the case to the Ombudsman.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Deddington Arms 'A'-board is now chained and nailed to telegraph pole on Banbury Road. PC to confer with Btel.
- Pedestrian rails at High St/Hempton Rd corner may not go ahead. PC to pursue.
- Mr Nobbs has still not cut the overgrown hedge at Castle St/Earls Lane corner. This is a traffic hazard.

UPPER HEYFORD

PC to check current position on likely additional demands on Deddington's Health and Fire Services. Parishioners are reminded that the Heyford Park Roadshow Exhibition will be at the Windmill Centre, Thursday 1 March, from 7pm.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Rural bus services are under review. PC strongly supports X59, 499 and Heyfordian 90 services, and wants better services for Clifton and Hempton, late night Oxford buses, Sunday service and improved school bus services. Parishioners interested in forming a Bus Users Group should contact the Clerk 01869 337447.

PARKING AUDIT

On Wed 21 and Sat 24 March, volunteers are needed to observe where cars are parked and for how long. Contact the Clerk, 337447.

SAVE OUR HERITAGE

Children have been excavating large areas of the Castle Grounds to make slides and ramps. This damage to an English Heritage site must stop. PC to pursue.

PARISH FINANCES

Invoices totalling £5,048.45, passed for payment, included £1,384.77 Inland Revenue and £1,279 Windmill Centre interior wall (J Spencer).

Investments, restructured following review, total £539,734.14 of which £19,970 Bradford & Bingley @ 6.25% on 120 days; £30,000 @ 4.7975% + £25,000 @ 4.9175%, both Treasury stock, fixed; £4,638.18 @ 3.5% on 14 days; £450,000 West Bromwich Building Society @ 6.25% + £9.384.91 @ 2.3% + £741.05 @ 2.1%, all overnight.

THE COUNCIL THEN WENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

NEXT MEETING Wed 21 Feb, 7.30pm T Hall

Official minutes of PC meetings may be seen at the Clerk's office and the Library, on noticeboards in Deddington, Clifton and Hempton, and on the village website www.deddington.org.uk

SCHOOL NEWS

Happy New Year. I hope you have all enjoyed a restful Christmas break. The staff and children certainly have and are now ready for the exciting term ahead. Our younger children will be following a topic about " Ourselves" and the older children will be learning about "The Ancient Greeks". Once again there will be plenty of interesting activities to enjoy.

This term we have welcomed 14 new children. I look forward to working with them and their families during the coming year.

On Friday February 2nd. the children will participate in a National non-uniform day. The proceeds will go to help children growing up alone in Uganda and Romania.

I should like to thank the PTA, and all who supported them, for their hard work over the Christmas period. Proceeds from the Christmas Bazaar and Santa's Float will go towards our long-term aim of improving playtime provision. Some of last year's PTA money has gone towards the complete re-furnishing of two classrooms and the dining hall. We now have several older style classroom tables and will have dining tables and chairs in need of new homes ! If you can help in any way please contact the school.

As usual, we are making several collections this term and would be grateful if you could donate computer vouchers (from the national press) or Walkers Crisps tokens. It would be an enormous help if the latter were already cut from the packet ! Thank you.

Staff Vacancy: we currently have a vacancy for a lunch-time supervisor. Please apply by letter to Mrs. Lynne Stephens if you are interested in joining our cheerful lunch-time team.

LYNNE STEPHENS Acting Head Teacher 338430

....and from the PTA

The PTA is planning one of its popular Quiz Nights for **Saturday, March 10, 7. 30pm.** at the Windmill Centre. Everyone is warmly welcome. For further information contact: TANYA CHADWICK 338948 or HELEN COOKE 01295 816049.

GLEANINGS FROM THE PAST – PARISH AND DEANERY MAGAZINES

"Christmas this year, as far as the weather was concerned, was an old-fashioned one – the ground being covered with snow and a severe frost having set in." So we read in a report about Christmas 1890. We can well imagine the scene having just experienced the like at the end of the year 2000.

But can anyone remember hearing of the many village Charities which helped Deddingtonians through the cold winter months back in the past ? Is the name of MISS CHURCHILL still familiar to anyone now living in the village ? For over 20 years she represented a Charity through which the elderly and needy were able to have (probably borrow) blankets for the duration of the winter months. She also supervised a Clothing Club, giving villagers the chance to put by a very small sum each week to make possible the purchase of something extra before Christmas.

The Coal Charity, supported every year by the Feoffees, the Parish Church, Congregational Chapel, Wesleyan Reform Chapel and local individuals kept the fires of the poor burning. A Soup Kitchen opened in 1881 and provided soup at one penny a quart, once a week during the winter. The soup was served from Mrs Bliss's kitchen in Philcote Street, on average 17 times per season and detailed accounts are available. Expenditure for use of copper, meat and vegetables came to £12.9.5 in one winter.

Year after year these Charities were run by the village for the village and well deserved the then Vicar's yearly response: "I desire to thank all who have, by their purse, or time, or ability, or in any other way, contributed to their maintenance!"

RUTH JOHNSON

WINDMILL THURSDAY CLUB

(For older frail members of Deddington and Steeple Aston communities.)

Applications are sought for a Care Assistant to work with the Co-ordinator each Thursday from 10.am. to 3.pm.

For further information please contact:
Jim Flux on 01869 338153
or
Kenneth Holt on 01869 338154

LATE NEWS First meeting of Deddington Bookies: Thurs. Feb. 22. 7.30pm. Eldred House, High St. Deddington. For further information ring Linsey Hovard on 337810 or Liz Morgan on 337159

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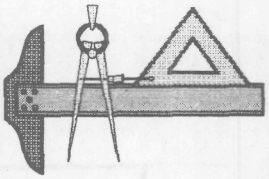

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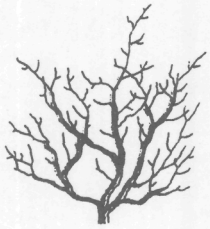

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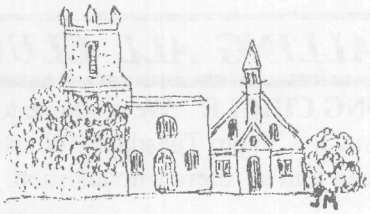

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February Services (Parish Church)

Thur 1 2 pm. Squeals and Wheels (Prams and Toddlers Service)
Sun 4 10 30am. Family Service
Sun 11 10.30am. Sung Eucharist
Sun 18 8 am. Holy Communion (BCP)
Wed 21 10am Holy Communion
Sun 25 10.30 am. Sung Eucharist
Wed 28 NO SERVICE at 10 am. 7.30 pm. Eucharist for Ash Wednesday

Wed 7 10pm. Holy Communion
Wed 14 10am. Holy Communion
10.30am. Sung Mattins (BCP)

February Services (St John, Hempton)

Suns 4 and 18 9am. Eucharist
Sun 25 6pm. Evensong (BCP)

Bible Study Home Group Meetings

Wed Feb. 7 7.30pm. for 8 pm. **& Tues. 27** 7.pm. at 2 The Leyes.
Wed Feb. 21 7.30pm. for 8pm. at Boulderdyke, Clifton

Mothers' Union Meeting **Friday Feb. 9** 2.15pm. at 10 Hopcraft Lane (Ellen Cresswell)

The Church Club meets every Monday in term time at the Primary School, 3.15 – 4pm.

The Inter-regnum will shortly come to an end, with the induction on **Friday, March 23 at 7.30pm. in the Parish Church,** of the Revd. Dr. Hugh White.We look forward to welcoming him and his family. Meanwhile, if you wish to enquire about baptisms or weddings, please contact our curate, the Revd. David Nicol (01295 812697). For other church matters please contact the churchwardens, George Fenemore (338203) or Vivien Pleydell-Bouverie (338269).

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERALS December 7 in the Parish Church - ROBIN CARNEGIE
January 4 in the Parish Church - KENNETH BERRY
January 12 in the Parish Church - KENNETH HARBER-SMITH

DEDDINGTON WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

On the first Wednesday of this month **(Feb.7)** there will be Taizé Prayer. On the other 3 Wednesdays there will be fellowship and Bible Study, 7.30pm. at The Manse, 3 Castle Street.
The preacher on Sundays **4, 11, 18 Feb.** will be Pastor Walton. On **Feb. 25** the preacher is Mr. John Hine.

Pastor ISSY WALTON (337157)

DEDDINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, New Street. Secretary Joyce Minnear Tel: 338529

A warm welcome awaits you.
Sunday Evening Worship 6pm. Preachers as follows:
February Services: Sun 4 Pastor I. Walton **Sun 11 Mr.** R. Adkins **Sun 18** Rev. Norman Bonnet
Sun 25 Mr. John Hine

Rev. ALBERT FOX (345339)

R.C. PARISH OF HETHE WITH ADDERBURY.

The times of services will be as follows:
Masses being in English. HETHE: Every weekday at 10am (including Saturday but excluding Wednesday). Sundays also10am. Confessions: Saturdays 5.30 - 6pm.
ADDERBURY: Wednesdays - 7pm. Sundays - 8.30am. Confessions: Before Masses.

Parish Priest: Rev A. J. BURNS (277396)

TRIBUTE
KENNETH HARBER-SMITH

We are very sorry to report the death of Kenneth Harber-Smith on Janury 3, 2001, after some months of illness. Kenneth and Mary lived in Oxford before settling in Deddington. Kenneth was a well-known accountant and athlete in earlier years and will be long remembered for his Presidency of the Hawks Hockey Club. We send our sympathy to Mary, family and friends at this sad time. ANGELA WALLER

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

CANON CHRISTOPHER HALL

Congratulations to Christopher Hall on his installation as an Honorary Canon of Christchurch Cathedral on December 14, 2000. This was in recognition of his work over the last ten years in pioneering Christian Concern for One World (CCOW), leading to the successful Jubilee 2000 Campaign.
We would like to thank him for taking many of our services over this period and for his help during the Inter-regnum. ANGELA WALLER

CALLING ALL CLUBS

SONG CIRCLE We continue to enjoy ourselves singing rounds, folk songs and light popular pieces around the piano at 7.30 pm Tuesdays. We start with a "cuppa" and chat, discuss what we wish to sing and then do it. If you'd like to join us, there's no audition, just ring. **ANNETTE MURPHY 337318**

ART GROUP There were 14 at the last meeting! Be early if you want to set up an easel, otherwise plenty of space for seated artists. Meetings each Thursday 10 am-12.30 and 1.30-4pm in the Town Hall. The £5 per session covers rent of room and model's fee. There is no registration, enrolment or need for regular attendance – just turn up for a warm welcome. If you are interested in becoming a clothed 'portrait' model, please ring for details.
FRANK PALMER 01608-659330

FRIENDSHIP CLUB The Club held its AGM on 10 January which was very well attended. Two new members were welcomed. Our Chairman, Mrs Margaret Colley, reported on the year's activities and emphasized the friendly atmosphere within the Club. Unfortunately she is standing down, for personal reasons. Mrs Joyce Minnear has agreed to take over for 2001. Mr Paul O'Sullivan proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Committee for the leadership of the Club. Our February meetings will be Wednesday 7th and 21st at 2.30-4.30pm at the Windmill. Anyone wishing information on the Club's activities can ring me. **GWEN BOND 337354**

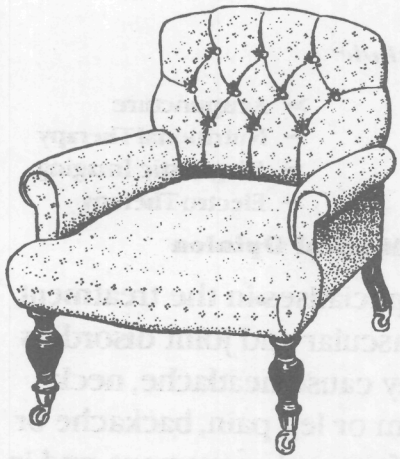
DEDDINGTON YOUTH CLUB Carl Brown, our Leader, has had to leave us due to work commitments. We are now without Leaders, therefore all Monday Youth Club evenings are cancelled for the time being. We continue to look for new staff and the situation will be reviewed in May. If anyone is interested or knows someone suitable, please contact me as soon as possible. The evenings are on Thursday 7-9 pm and the vacancies are paid positions.
GAY BREWER 338097

DEDDINGTON W.I. On January 9, after wishing members a Happy New Year with wine and the remaining portion of our 75th Anniversary cake, our Speaker, Mrs 'Mac' Grundy showed slides of a trip along the Panama Canal to Chile and Peru. The canal was first undertaken by France, but completely re-started in 1904 by the USA and finished in 1914, thereby shortening trade routes considerably. It is a spectacular feat of civil engineering, and recently has been handed back to Panama by America. A good subject, of interest to members. On February 13 there is a change of speaker – Mrs Kath Morris will speak on 'A week in the life of a fund-raiser'. Perhaps a few tips may be forthcoming. **RENE MAHONY 338438**

DEDDINGTON CRICKET CLUB We are not hibernating (albeit we are rather hung over from the successes of our national team in the last 12 months!). We've been busy. Ground work is always required (e.g. burning one of our storm wrecked sight screens). A Spring Quiz is planned to follow the popular Autumn effort and indoor nets start in March. We have a Saturday side, who after two years of successive promotion, consolidated in O.C.A. Premier Division 4 last season and play 16 games per season (plus cup progress). The Sunday team play 12-14 friendlies per season. New players (of any or no ability) are always welcome. For details please contact Alan Collins (see below, or e-mail avacollins@aol.com) or our new Chairman Terry Clinch on 01869 338711. If you fancy a go in the nets first, Alan will be establishing a rota (sessions £3 each) to ensure everyone gets a go! Alternatively, check us out on Deddington OnLine. Howzat? **ALAN COLLINS 01869 338031**

DEDDINGTON AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY Our first meeting of the New Year saw a return visit from Carl Boardman, Oxfordshire County Archivist, who was our very first speaker back in October 1998. It doesn't seem that long ago since we started. Carl came to tell us, in his inimitable way, about the suspense story centring on the heroic struggle for a new County Record Office. The office is housed in St Luke's Church, Cowley, built in the 1930s by Lord Nuffield for an unappreciative workforce and long redundant. By dint of a successful Lottery bid and appeals to such Oxfordshire notables as Paul Getty, Carl secured for the County, for £600,000 a first-rate record office worth five or six times that amount. I think the new office is a remarkably successful combination of old and new; members will have an opportunity to judge for themselves when we organise a visit in the Spring. On Wednesday 14 February (Windmill Centre 7.30) our speaker will be Malcolm Graham, Head of the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies, who will speak on 'Oxfordshire in the Second World War'. As always, everyone is welcome.
CHRIS DAY 337204

WINDMILL THURSDAY CLUB This Club is for older folk in the area who would like some company and a good lunch in very friendly surroundings between 10am and 3 pm on Thursdays at the Windmill Centre. Transport is available to and from the Windmill Centre, and activities are arranged as part of the day. Anyone interested in joining please contact Maggie Moojen on 337660. Volunteers are always welcome to run this club for the elderly, so if you can spare a few hours on any Thursday, please call Maggie on 337660. **JIM FLUX 338153**



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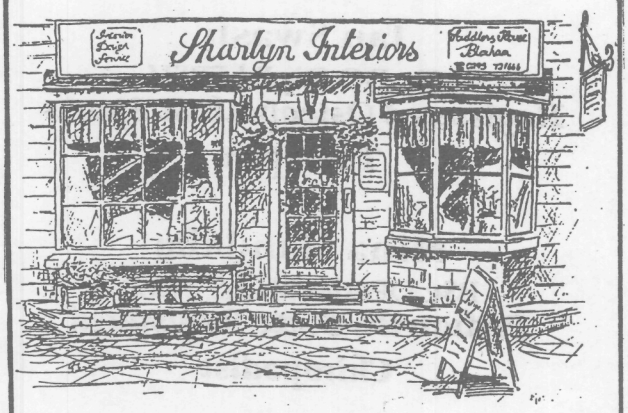

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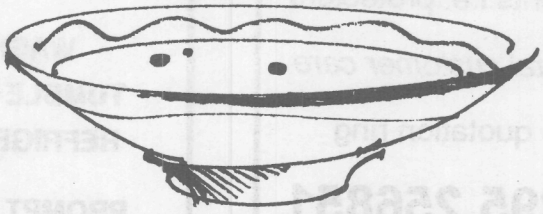

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CALLING ALL CLUBS contd.

DEDDINGTON COLTS FOOTBALL CLUB Our Club is prospering and we now provide organised football for 84 boys and girls in six different squads. Our most successful team this season is the u/10s with the u/9 Colts not far behind. The u/10s Colts are enjoying unprecedented success in their Witney and District B League. Formed only last season, they had mixed fortunes but ended a respectable fourth from bottom. However, this season they have excelled and are presently top of the league, 13 points clear of their nearest rival with only five matches to go. Of the 13 matches played, 11 have been wins with one draw and one defeat. Amongst the regular goal scorers are local heroes Sam Rollason/Luc Thornton/Oliver Poole/Jack Davies and Michael Large. An interest from Premiership side Coventry City in 2 or 3 players has added new excitement. Aston Martin Cars has agreed a new sponsorship deal with the Club, resulting in a new team strip, soon to be revealed. Hard work from FA qualified coach Christian Schneider has been an essential part of the overall success. We are always on the look-out for new local talent, so come and watch us on Saturday mornings or contact team manager Peter Schneider there, or on 01869 340078 for an chat. It's a perfect way of making new friends.
As a new manager this year, Richard Phethean reports that it's been great to see the U9 Colts steadily improving. Despite occasional moments of mayhem during training, they rise to the challenge on match days and topped their season with a win over top of the league Bicester Colts just before Christmas. Deddington School has kindly allowed us to use their field on Saturdays of match congestion at The Windmill. Moral is high as we go into the quarterfinals of the Witney and District U9s knockout cup competition. We sit 6th out of 10 in the league table: played 13, won 5, drawn 3, lost 5, goals for-26, against -22, points 18. **GED RHIND 01295-450505**

MONDAY MORNING CLUB A group is going to the opera at the Apollo in Oxford on 9 February. The performance starts at 7.15 pm, the bus will leave the Market Place at 6 pm. To all those who are coming, please collect your tickets on 9 February at the coffee morning. The tickets for *Twelfth Night* at The Royal Shakespeare Theatre for 6 June have arrived, as have those for *Julius Caesar* on Sept. 5. Not all have been reserved yet, so drop in to the coffee morning if you are interested. Subscriptions for 2001 (£1) are now due. **JEAN FLUX 338153**

DEDDINGTON BRITISH LEGION CLUB An excellent attendance was recorded at the AGM on 13 January when the Treasurer reported a small loss in the year but business had been good and the Club is in a strong financial position. The 159 members of the Branch are automatically members of the Club. Officers elected for next year are: President – Dave Keats, Vice-President – Pete Taylor, Chairman – Graham Morrison, Vice-Chairman - Phil Chard, Secretary – Carol Large and Treasurer – Norman West. It was necessary to vote for committee members as more than the allocation of 9 were proposed. Villagers please note that membership is open to all (service in the armed forces is not a condition of membership). If interested, please apply to the Steward at the Club any evening except Wed. Membership is £10 pa.
DEDDINGTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION The Branch's AGM was held on 13 January. The Treasurer reported a good year with the Poppy Collection having raised almost £3000 in Deddington and surrounding villages, which is in excess of last year. 145 members have renewed for the year 2000-2001 and to date there are 14 new members; Deddington winning 2nd prize in Oxford & District for new members in the year. Officers elected: President – Norman West, Chairman – Graham Morrison, Secretary – Ray Morris, Treasurer – Norman West and Standard Bearer – Dennis Freeman. Also elected were 7 committee members. **RAY MORRIS 338143**

DEDDINGTON BABIES AND TODDLERS GROUP Our winter outing on Friday 9 February will be to the Butterfly Farm at Stratford-on-Avon – a warm indoor destination! Members wanting to come should sign the list at the Friday sessions. Transport will be in members' cars – lifts can probably be offered to anyone needing them. If you live in Deddington or nearby, have a baby or toddler, and would like to make new friends whilst enjoying a morning out, then come and join our regular meetings at the Windmill Centre every Friday (except 9 February) from 9.30-11.30. For more details, phone Lucy Squires, or just turn up any Friday. **LUCY SQUIRES 338442**

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Tai Chi classes every Thursday from 8th February onwards at 7pm in the Windmill Centre Deddington. £4.50 (£3.00 concessions) Gentle, easy to learn exercises for all ages. To book your place call Maria Huff (01869) 347 179.

DEDDINGTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

1st Team results		
	Abba Athletic(h)(Dave Wood Cup)	Won 10-1
	Flowing Well(h)	Lost 1-4
	Bishops Itchington(h)	Lost – Match conceded
	Bardwell Res(h)(Dave Wood Cup)	Won 3-0

Over the past 2 months the 1st team have had a mixed bag of results, the highlight being the progress made in the Dave Wood Cup. Emphatic victories over Jersey League side's Abba Athletic & Bardwell Res have given the team an excellent chance to progress into the quarter finals. The league results have not been so good, the latest matches ending in defeats.

Reserve team results

Kings Sutton(a)	Lost 1-4	C Smith
Wardington(h)(Geoff Wilson Cup)(h)	Won 6-	B Durrant, T Drew, C Smith
Flowing Well Res(h)	Won 9-2	D Keys(3), A Pearce C Smith(2), B Durrant, D Clouston, D Churchill

The Reserve side have had a good couple of months, winning 2 and losing just 1 game. An impressive 6-2 win over Wardington has put the team through to the last 8 of the Geoff Wilson Cup, where they will face Barford Res. On the league front a 9-2 thrashing of Flowing Well Res has kept the team in the promotion hunt at the top of Division 2. Daniel Keys scored a hat trick in this match. **STEVE PLUMBE – 01296 278258**

DEDDINGTON GUIDES We are very pleased to welcome Carolyn, Anna and Ashleigh to our meetings. We have been busy enjoying activities and planting our own patio. During our new quiet programme meetings we've put on plays, organised keep-fit games and made healthy Mexican banana and chocolate drinks. We hope to get a dart group together to take part in a show in Oxford this summer.

In September Deddington Guides will be 30 years old ! We are planning lots of exciting activities and a party. If you are an ex-Deddington guide or helper or know of an ex-guide, we want to hear from you. Please get in touch.

MAGGIE RAMPLEY 01295 810069 GLYNNIS EASTWOOD 01869 370021

PLEASE NOTE that for the March 2001 issue, Acting Clubs Editor will be
LIZ HANDLEY: TEL: 077207-69374 after 6pm
Email: liz@sentryhouse.fsnet.co.uk

THE WAY WE WERE Deddington 150 years ago by Buffy Heywood

Extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for the month of January 1851:-

3rd JANUARY – I met Mr. Venables and old Mr. Wilson at the Church and showed them a plan I received this morning from Mr. Buckler of Oxford for the proposed new Church at Clifton – with which they were much pleased. Whilst we were there the new assistant Curate arrived, a Mr. Vibert, who accompanied us to look at Mr. Hatton's cottage at the Kings Arms – as a residence hereafter.

4th JANUARY – J. Knibbs came and I paid him his bill for thatching the boys school.

17th JANUARY –An eclipse partially visible in England here took place between 3 & 4 o'clock this afternoon – of the moon.

18th JANUARY – Thomas was I am sorry to say insolent this morning and I gave him notice to leave his service this day month. He begged pardon immediately – twice – but I said I could not attend to him – what I may do I really know not.

29th JANUARY – J. Austin spoke to me about The Tuns Public House – and its irregularities, he being one of the Church Wardens. His son Thomas has been there as late as half past 4 o'clock in the morning, and the constable has been frequently sent for there – to do his duty.

31st JANUARY – I went with Holford and Willy to the Rousham Ball – Holford came from New College by train. The Ball passed off admirably – from 150 to 200 persons being present, we reached home at 5 o'clock a.m.

COPY DATE FOR MARCH DEDDINGTON NEWS
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PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

There is currently a vacancy on the Parish Council. **If** more than one candidate stands, there will be an election. **Should** this happen, the relevant dates are as follows:

Publication of notice of election: Thurs. Feb. 1, 2001.

Latest date for delivery of nomination papers: Fri. Feb. 9, noon.

Latest time for receipt of absent voting applications: Wed. Feb. 21, 5pm.

POLLING DAY: Thurs. March 8, 2001. 8 am – 9 pm.

The DN is liaising with the PC in publicising a possible election. So if you are a candidate please send brief autobiographical notes to the DN by the March copy date, **Tues. Feb 20, 2001**. Thank you Ed.

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

DEDDINGTON PARKING AUDIT

As a result of the ever-growing parking problems in Deddington, the Parish Council will be carrying out a parking audit from **7a.m. to 7p.m. on Wednesday 21st March 2001** and **Saturday 24th March 2001.** The areas being covered are: New Street, High Street, St Thomas Street, Hopcraft Lane, Castle Street, Chapel Square, Philcote Street, Hudson Street, Market Place, Bullring, Horsefair, Tays Lane and Earls Lane.

Volunteers are needed to assist in this audit, by working a two hour shift and covering a "Beat". If you are able to help on one or both days please contact Councillor Jim Bell (see below).

We need lots of help. There will be a briefing session at **7.30p.m. on Thursday 1st March 2001 at the Windmill Centre** for all those taking part. A questionnaire will be circulated to all households in the audit area prior to the audit.

JIM BELL For Parking Working Group. 338649 E-mail: jim.bell@tinyworld.co.uk

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

POLICE NEWS

8 crimes were recorded for Deddington, Clifton and Hempton between 29.11.00 and 22.1.01 They are as follows: Burglary (non-dwelling) – 2. Theft from motor vehicle – 3. Theft – 1. Handling stolen goods – 1. Criminal Damage – 1. One of the Burglaries, the Handling and the Criminal Damage have been successfully detected. Theft from motor vehicles remains the most 'popular' crime . Parishioners are reminded not to leave anything of value in their vehicles.

No recorded Youth Crime, for which the youths of our villages must be praised. Well done and keep it up !

PC BOB DONOHUE

FIRE SERVICE

Fire calls 2000 : During the final days of 2000, 8 calls were received which were: 2 car fires, 1 false alarm with good intent, 5 calls to stand by at other stations. This brought the annual total to 122, which was slightly more than in 1999.

Fire calls 2001 : A slow start to the year with only 4 calls received during the first 16 days: I chimney fire, 2 car fires, 1 call to stand by at Bicester.

Recruiting : We are still looking for more personnel to give daytime cover and enable the Station to be available 24 hours a day.

ALBERT HUMPHRIES 338943

DEDDINGTON HEALTH CENTRE As a result of the increased demand for appointments, the doctors have begun to open up additional surgeries each week in an attempt to improve their availability. This measure will result in a significant increase in the number of appointments and should improve the service to our patients.

DINA BENTLEY (Mrs) Practice Manager

HEYFORD PARK ROADSHOW EXHIBITION

The North Oxfordshire Consortium (Land Developments) Ltd. (NOC) submitted a planning application last November for a settlement of 1000 houses with associated employment and community facilities at Heyford Park. The Consortium is now showing their proposal and wants to hear the views of local communities. Their Exhibition visits Deddington, Windmill Centre, on Thursday, March 1, 2001, from 7. pm.

FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

(Please address all letters to: Frank Steiner, 5 Chapman's Lane, Deddington.
E-mail: f.steiner@onmail.co.uk)

FROM GEORGE FENEMORE, HOME FARM, CLIFTON

Mr. Mike Ramsdale's letter in the December DN raises several points which I shall try to answer. He first asks why farmers bring the Spring sowing of grain forward to Autumn. The planting of Winter crops is a practice that has been used by farmers for many years; one with many farm management advantages. Winter sown crops yield much better than Spring crops, Autumn sown crops are very cost efficient in the reduced use of farm chemicals and fertilizers and benefit the environment by mopping up any residual nitrogen left from the previous crop, thus reducing nitrate leaching into the ground water. Winter planted crops also make better use of farm staff in what would otherwise be a slack time. If all the crop work was left until Spring we should have to double the work force to cope with the crop work and the lambing.

In view of what has happened on the Continent since Mike wrote his letter I wonder if he still thinks internationally produced food is first class or safe to eat? He may like to know that a number of the EEC member countries has now started to implement the British model for animal and crop hygiene and welfare. Mike goes on to say that farmers cannot rely for ever on the £20 per week subsidy that every family pays us through the CAP. The money that every tax-paying family, including farming families, gives to the Government for the CAP is not, as Mike suggests, given back to British farmers. It goes into the EEC coffers and only a percentage comes back to the UK. The rest goes to other EEC countries, many of which do not contribute to the CAP.

CAP payments cover food manufacture, food processors, environmental and conservation schemes and crop production. I have spent some time trawling the Government web site to find the public expenditure figures on agriculture and the CAP. All the figures quoted are from that web site. I will give only a brief resumé here as it runs to 7 pages of A4 but I will send Mike a copy. The total UK expenditure on Agriculture in 1999/2000 is forecast to fall by some £310 million to £3172* million compared with the previous year (* this is the amount paid into central CAP funds by the Government). Spending in the UK under the CAP is forecast to decrease from £3193 million in 98/99 to £2924 million. But as with all subsidies and grants there is no free lunch. The fact is that British agriculture pays back to the Government some £2923 million in a whole gamut of levies, internal market measures and export refunds. As Mike might know, all payments received are counted as income and taxed. Farming and food production has always been a political pawn. Subsidy and CAP payments are a way for the Government to keep the cost of food to the consumer low. This has a number of benefits for Government. By keeping the cost of the weekly food shopping low, the consumer has more to spend on non-essential goods, thus helping other sections of the economy. More jobs are created and the Treasury will get more back in VAT and tax and pay less unemployment benefit.. So - farmers are not the ogres you seem to think we are. Changes to the environment are not all down to farming. After all, many of the housing developments on which we now live were once farm land.

FROM COLIN ROBINSON, NEW STREET, DEDDINGTON

In Sylvie Spenceley's Friends of Daeda's Wood report (Dec. DN) the news of the Woods-on-Your-Doorstep reception at Westminster Palace was rewarding inasmuch as we can all share the 'feel good' factor. What Sylvie modestly did *not* report was that one of the reasons she was there was that she was given the 'Volunteer of the Year' award for our region in 2000. We are fortunate to have Sylvie in our community; her efforts in convening the Friends of Daeda's Wood, organising and publicising events, keeping an eye on the Wood and feeding back to the Woodland Trust are invaluable. Let's hear it for Sylvie .... !

FROM MIKE & JACKIE WILLIAMSON, WALNUT CLOSE, CLIFTON

As Friends of Daeda's Wood we probably know better than most the amount of time, work and dedication given to our community woodland by Sylvie Spenceley. She richly deserves her "Volunteer of the Year' award and we congratulate her on it.

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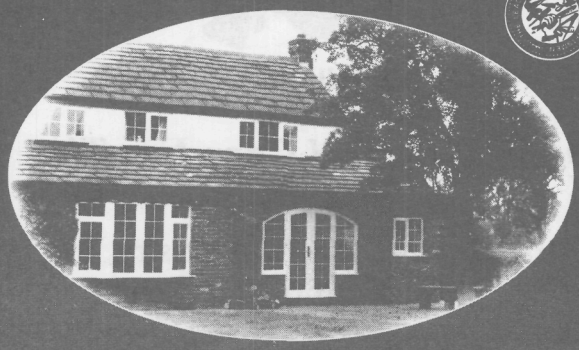

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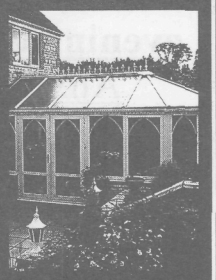

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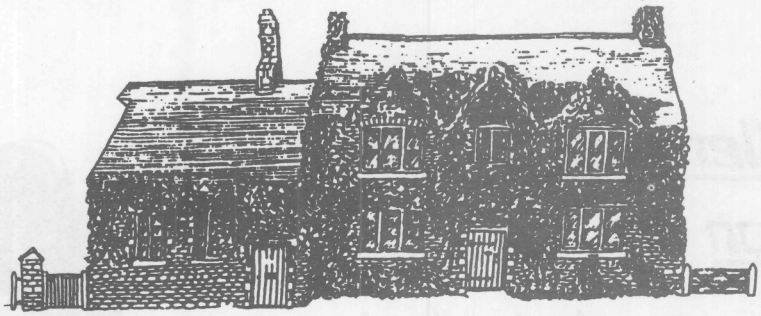

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FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG (Cont.)

FROM JOSEPHINE HAWKSLEY, LAXFIELD, SUFFOLK

(Extracts from a letter sent to Mary & Colin Robinson who are the present owners of Quinque House)

My daughter gave me a copy of *Discovering Deddington* this Christmas. I found it very interesting and must congratulate all concerned with its production.

I lived in Deddington for about 14 years from November 1959. Deddington was very different then. A number of houses were still rented out for 7s 6d a week, and were very dilapidated, with corrugated iron roofs over deteriorating thatch and broken windows. The occupiers were only too happy to move into new council houses. We first lived in Dragon House (formerly Acacia House). My husband Anthony, a silversmith, had his workshop in the old kitchen with its cobbled floor and ingle fireplace. When we bought Quinque it was five almost derelict cottages. I understand that before being the workhouse, it was a farmhouse (the higher part) and a barn. It was made into five cottages in Victorian times.

The character of Deddington changed with the coming of firms like Alcan and Maxwell House to Banbury. Managers and executives started buying properties in the village, and they brought a different culture with them. George, a local character, used to live in the garage of Laurel House (he bought a week's supply of chips when the van came around!) Before that he liked to sleep in the church porch. He was very knowledgeable about steam engines, and travelled around the countryside visiting steam fairs. He was born in Deddington on the site of the Windmill. I believe that his brother was a gentleman's gentleman.

The Fair used to come to the Market Place once a year just for a couple of days.

FROM ARTHUR LEWIS, CHAPMAN'S LANE, DEDDINGTON

On December 2, 200, my wife and I attended the Christmas Lunch organised by Deddington Ladies for the Over Sixties at the Holly Tree. The wine and meal were very enjoyable with, later, mince pies, cheese and biscuits, Xmas cake and each person presented with a box of chocolates on leaving. Ken and Doreen Ashton, who have been well known to us for many years, provided the entertainment – music by Ken and singing by Doreen, with a few carols by Topper Davis, who is always in good form. We all joined in the Sing Song, making this a complete occasion. Grateful thanks to the Deddington Ladies for all their hard work and well-organised arrangements.

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

NORMAN STONE wishes to include the following appreciation:

"I would like to thank Ian Sloan for letting me exhibit my paintings at Centrepoint, free of charge. Ian tells me the the same facility is open to other local artists. Anyone who wants to take up this public-spirited offer should contact Ian on 01869 338866."

RIPPLES IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD. . . .

(Last December Rebecka Blenntoft was chosen from well over 100 candidates to participate in the following Rotary Club scheme. I asked her to send the DN an account of what has happened so far. Ed.)

Rebecka writes: "I am being sponsored by the Rotary Club of Banbury to participate in their GSE (Group Study Exchange) in Texas from April 7 to May 8 this year.

"The Rotary Club runs numerous programmes, the GSE being one of the most popular and rewarding. The GSE pairs Rotary districts to send and receive study teams. Our team was put together from the whole Thames Valley area. Candidates had to go to area interviews, undertake private interviews in front of a Board and also take part in group team activities while being monitored. We were chosen because we have leadership qualities, enthusiasm (!?), can give presentations to large groups of people and are pioneers in our individual professions. I have started my own business, involving property management, building refurbishment and interior design. We will meet other professionals in our fields on study'Vocational Days' and exchange ideas and work practices.

"Our team of 4, with a team leader, will live with host families in Texas (Austin area). At the moment we are preparing speeches (one for a conference where we talk to over 1,500 people) getting gifts together, delegating responsibilities, choosing uniforms and preparing researched articles on every aspect of British life, from transport policy to education systems to the Northern Ireland situation. Because we also act as goodwill ambassadors and represent the Rotary we have to be seen to be incredibly well-informed ! No one realises how much hard work is involved – difficult to convince people that you are not on a 'jolly'.

"I know this will be a wonderful experience and am really excited about going. None of us has been to Texas before and we all have visions of ten gallon hats and mammoth steaks !"

THE NEW BT PHONE BOOK - Jim Flux has pointed out that the Parish receives the Oxford District version of the Phone Book. A **free** copy of the Banbury District version can be obtained by contacting BT, see information on page 4 of the new Oxford District version.

A THEATRICAL ENTERTAINMENT INVOLVING MUSIC.....

The Oxford Compact English Dictionary defines a pantomime as "a theatrical entertainment involving music, topical jokes and slapstick comedy, usually produced around Christmas".

How did *Little Red Riding Hood* measure up? It was certainly "a theatrical entertainment", full of colour and stagecraft, with plenty of bangs, flashes and other surprises. Old favourites amused and new talents amazed. The show's highlights included Grandma's dancing teeth, the transformation of a scary wolf into a floppy dog, collapsing houses of straw and sticks and a remarkable gnome in a box. What about "involving music"? Yes - original composition, instrumental playing, solo and ensemble singing all helped to work the panto magic. "Topical jokes" could have been funnier and more sharply focussed - which is harder to pull off than an audience may realise. "Slapstick comedy" was up to scratch (was there less of it this year than usual?). "Produced around Christmas" - near enough. The dictionary definition does not mention costumes, scenery, makeup or props, all of which were excellent. Full marks for audibility - once the noisy overhead heaters had been switched off.

All in all, *Little Red Riding Hood* was good entertainment for families, but also by families. At least five families were among the five dozen or so players and production team who worked together to delight us. Do we want another pantomime next year? Oh yes we do! NORMAN STONE 338019

PANTO 2001

Who's afraid of the Big Bad Wolf? All of us we quivered and quaked!
Front stage, back stage, all took fright, but his ire was only faked.
Becoming a dog he met his match, was firmly stripped by a Wardrobe Lady
(one of our clever hardworking two, so don't imagine anything shady ...)
Who's afraid of our Jim and Jean? Everyone, for they're gods to us all.
He's energetic, never stops working, she is a Dragon though she's very small!
Who's afraid of the Backstage Lady! No one at all, for she's really a saint.
Gill was efficient, cheerful, patient - fierce and forbidding is what she ain't.
Jim, a Dame the wide world over with wig and hat and a gaudy dress ,
Needs upholstering! (not complaining - may his shadow never grow less!)
Miles was a cat with poise and charisma, pointed ears and busy claws;
Trailing his long tail cheekily backstage, just NOT getting it trapped in doors!
Everyone cheered our vague old Wizard though Latin spells mixed him up until
Miles' Latin Master UNDERSTOOD him which did give George a thrill!
Sweet Riding Hood fell for handsome Florian but once to propose he quite forgot!
Snooty Cedric didn't win her either, though the Gnome charmed us a lot.
Elves and animals, pigs and dancers, acted throughout with great allure,
If they could have banished Molly, they'd have had more fun, we're sure!
Who's afraid of our Authors two ? Folk want to know just who wrote what....
Well, THEY had fun and they hope you did, so it doesn't matter a jot! M.N.

Carols on Christmas Eve : The traditional carols in the market place were rained off, so Geoff and Joan Todd took their street organ into the Parish Church. Two exotic visitors were Canadians Gregory and Theresa Kostyrsky, currently attached to the Trade Legation in Vienna. They had decided to spend Christmas in Oxford and had received from the Oxford Tourist Board a note of our Service among other Christmas events. The Church was so full that the back aisle was crowded with standing people. Mulled wine was available, courtesy of Audrey and Ralph Stewart of Clydesdales Beauty. M.N.

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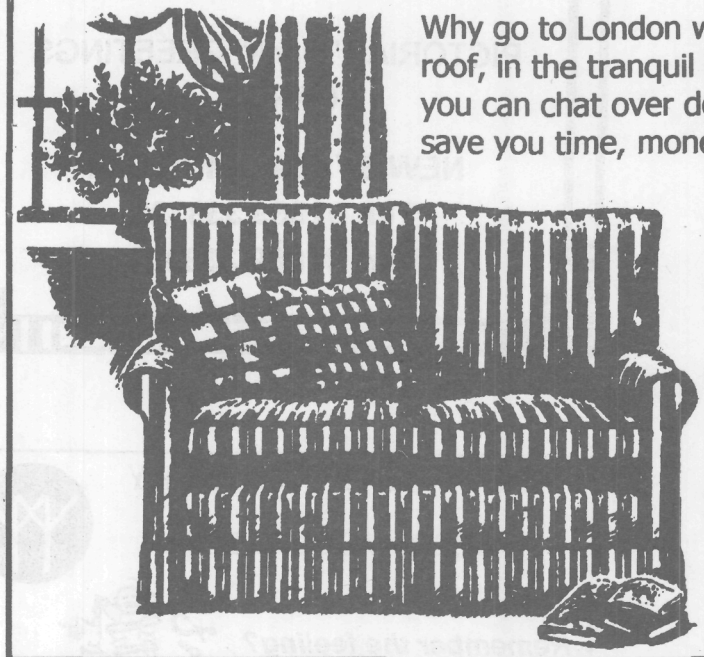

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FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY – BOOKSALE REPORT from GEOFF TODD

Our thanks go to everyone who donated hundreds and hundreds of books for the Giant Booksale at the Holly Tree last December. We hoped to raise a few hundred pounds. We raised **£1,000** ! This puts us halfway towards our target of £2,000 for the renovation of Deddington Library. Our thanks, also, to the many people who helped us organise this event and make it such a success.

Unsold books were donated to charities including: Macmillan Nurses, Sobell House Foundation, OXRAD, Oxfam, Help the Aged, British Heart Foundation, Imperial Cancer Research, Red Cross, Barnardos, Scope and Horton Hospital League of Friends. This means that all the books you donated helped worthwhile causes.

Deddngton Library serves a number of surrounding villages both through visiting users and the Moble Unit. The refurbishment planned for 2001 includes: access for the disabled, a better IT and research area, enlarged children's display, more general display and information areas and improved facilities for staff and library users . *(See this year's DN cover. Ed.)*

Rosemary Arnold reports that the winner of the Deddington Library Christmas Quiz was **Liza Hopkinson** of Horley, with an excellent score. The runner-up was **Joan Todd** of Deddington. Liza wins the family rail ticket to London, donated by Chiltern Railways. Congratulations to both ladies and many thanks to all who supported the Quiz, which raised approximately £75 for the renovation fund.

FRIENDS OF DEDDINGTON LIBRARY – FUTURE PLANS from SUE GODDARD

Well, £1.000 ! Thank you everyone for your support for the Booksale.

The next major fund-raising event in support of Deddington Library is a **Children's Concert by Choros** on **Sunday, May 13** in the **Parish Church**. It should be a lovely evening so I hope you will all come.

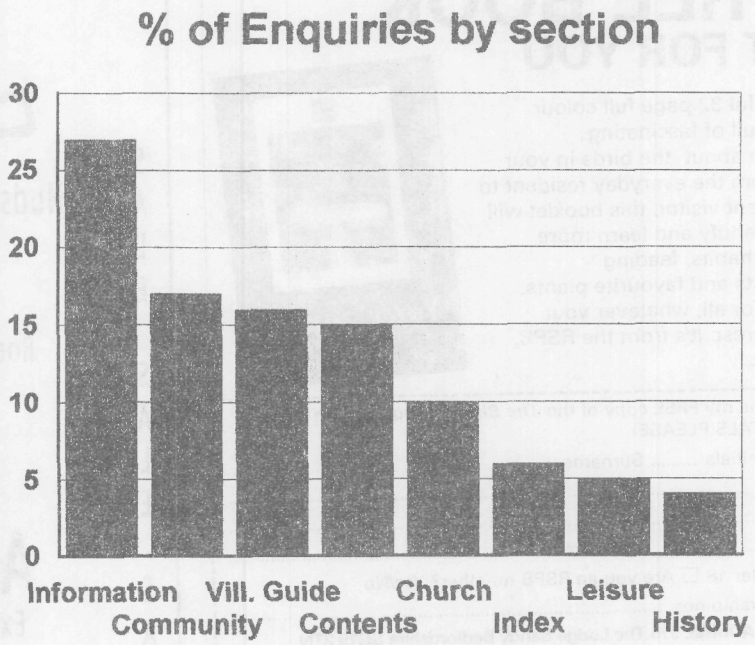
The Friends are also planning a quieter evening with a literary flavour for **Friday, April 6** at the **Holly Tree**. Called, *Who Said That ?*, the programme will include unattributed readings which, if you wish, you can identify. There will be a glass of wine to aid memory. Further details about both the above events in next month's DN.

◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆◆

Deddington OnLine www.deddington.org.uk

In the last edition of *DN* we reported that 70,000 web pages were viewed on the site during the 12 months ending October 2000. The graph below describes the proportion of visitors to each section of the site.

It would be premature to draw any firm conclusions from these figures as the content of the site is being constantly reviewed with new items being frequently added. Nevertheless the profile will be a useful baseline upon which next October's annual review of visitors can be compared. Finally look out for our ads in *DN*. We hope that these will raise awareness of DoL. Colin Clark 338064 or cclark9302@aol.com.



DEDDINGTON MAP GROUP

Thanks to Rosemary Arnold, Rod Hayward and John Vaughan, you can buy copies of the Group's maps and publications at Deddington Library, High Street; Hayward White, Estate Agents, Market Place; Castle Antiques, Manor Farm, Clifton. Break-even point is within sight. Surplus revenue will then go to our main funders, the Parish Council, adding to £1,000 handed over last year. NORMAN STONE 338019

GARDENING NOTES

By this time the festive deadery will have been consigned to the bin. Holly is lovely out of doors with its deep green shiny leaves and bright berries but indoors after a week or so of central heating it becomes, well, unattractive. It's time we thought of Spring and the greenery we could bring in at this time of the year. If you are making a new bed or want to add a shrub somewhere it is a good idea to bear in mind those plants which can be cut for indoor use. If you bring in branches you are in effect pruning the shrub, so something that makes good growth would be best. At this time bare shoots of Forsythia and also Ribes (Current) can be brought in. They produce blossom and leaves within a few days. Each year they are a joy and a pleasure. Winter Jasmine has been in full flower for a while and looks lovely in a vase. It's very easy to grow. Years ago Ken Langstaff gave me a cutting which does well each winter. I am not keen on cutting flowers from our garden, even the prolific Narcissus, so I prefer to buy a small bunch and bring in green stuff to make an arrangement. For this, Pittosporum, plain or variegated, is really good. It's an evergreen and does not mind being cut. Choisia (Mexican Orange Blossom) positively begs to be cut, in fact you have to attack it a bit or it will get enormous. Most evergreens stand up to cutting but you need to choose the ones with smallish leaves or they will swamp the flowers which they are supposed to enhance.

MARIANNE ELSLEY

'Numquam sis ex toto otiosus, sed aut legens, aut scribens.' Thomas à Kempis

What on earth do I write about for February Deddington News? Visits to the allotment have been few (once). I did gather a few sprouts, parsnips and leeks but as I carried a large plastic tray of them up to the shed I caught my foot in the old nasturtium stalks, vegetables shot everywhere and I ... well, I won't go into that. My next immediate job was to clear the nasturtiums. I have since decided to take the advice as given above: Never be completely idle, but either reading or writing.

My offering to the DN shall be the writing bit and I have spotted the following book advertised in the Sunday Telegraph : *One Man and his Plot* . I gather from the blurb that "this book will appeal to anyone who has experienced the pleasures of frost, blackfly and slugs".

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NEWS FROM HEMPTON

The Christmas Bazaar was well attended with people enloying the various stalls. Many thanks to everyone who supported this event. Money raised goes to the Friends of Hempton Church to help pay for the maintenance of the Church.

Another enjoyable occasion was the Carol Service with approximately 50 people in attendance, along with the Deddington Church Choir. The Service was followed by sausage rolls and mince pies plus some delicious home-made punch supplied by Hilary Shenton. The collection was donated to Helen House, the children's Hospice in Oxford.

The table tennis team are now at the half-way stage of the season. They have played 9 games: Won 8, Drawn I and Lost 0. At the moment their nearest rivals, Bloxham, have a similar record.

Congratulations to Deborah and James McKenzie on the birth of a son, Benjamin, born on 15 December 2000. The family lives in Turrett Thatch, Hempton. Also congratulations to Leah and Jim Calcutt on the birth of their fourth daughter, Barley Rose, born on I7 December 2000. The family lives in the New Farmhouse on the Duns Tew Road.

LES CHAPPELL 338054

NEWS FROM CLIFTON

Mandy Harper's resignation from the Parish Council means there may be an election on Thursday 8 March. In the meantime, Clifton's only representative on the PC is Linda Davies who has taken Mandy's place on the School's Board of Governors. If you would like to put yourself forward, you will find full details elsewhere in this issue of DN but remember that nominations have to be in by noon on Friday 9 February. You can pick up a form at the Post Office. There has been no response to December's request for people's views on disposing of the Residents' Association's remaining funds and so, in the absence of any strong opinions to the contrary, the money will go towards the cost of reproducing Clifton's Millennium Map.

Would all motorists please drive slowly through Clifton and be especially careful of children and pets in County View, Tithe Lane, Chapel Close and Walnut Close. Finally, if you lost a Father Christmas enamelled earring on the Clifton/Deddington footpath, please give me a call. Let me know, too, if you have any news for the March column.

JACKIE WILLIAMSON 337128

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NOTHING

ever happens in Deddington. Nothing - except the pantomime of course and a carol concert ... and we're getting some new library facilities. No nothing really - unless you count the school fête, a new wood, a book about Deddington - and a millennium map and new cemetery gates. But nothing to speak of. OK there are a few arts and craft groups, a load of sports clubs, a Babies and Toddlers group and granted there're the Youth and Friendship Clubs. Then of course we do have our own fire-fighters and a cop shop and lots of other shops too. Yeah but ... ok there're a few churches and a choir, the WI, the Royal British Legion, a few pubs and restaurants, allotments, umpteen country walks, the PTA, the Windmill Centre, about 90 businesses, a History Society, the Monday Morning Club, a Song Circle, a monthly news letter, The Deddington Ladies, guides, brownies, scouts and cubs... and an internet website. Yeah, there is that.

www.deddington.org.uk

Free access at the Library

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

To mark the Millennium Year members of the Parish Church resolved to make a collection for Third World Charities unde the title, Count Your Blessings. The three charities chosen were: Tree Aid, re-planting deforested parts of Africa to provide a renewable source of fuel and halt erosion; The Toy Box Charity, working with street children in Guatamala; The Santal Mission, providing schools, medical treatment centres and agricultural technology for the Santali tribe in Bihar, N.E. India.

The collecting boxes are now being gathered in. Visitors to the church took boxes and have since returned their donations. If you still have a box , please hand it to Jean Flux as soon as possible. If you missed out earlier, but would like to contribute, there is still time. So far the Church has collected £757. Some donors have Gift Aided their contribution. For more information please call JEAN FLUX on 338153

♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

JEU D'ESPRIT by FRANK STEINER

Did William Shakespeare know Leadenporch House ? This is not proved but it is not too fanciful or improbable. Some people with literary gifts and some historical knowledge can write historical novels. Genuine historians can write factual history. I take the line that there is a third genre, that of legitimate speculation as to what was likely to have happened, based on known facts and circumstantial evidence.

We know that throughout his adult life Shakespeare travelled between London and Stratford, at first on foot, which took him four days, and later on horseback, in two days. In both cases he travelled via Banbury and Oxford and spent one night at Oxford. That was not the most direct route but he may have had good reasons. Perhaps the road was better, perhaps the inns. In any case the Thames Valley route would have brought him directly into the City and Southwark.

One point of attraction was his friendship with the Davenants who kept the Crown Inn at Oxford – a friendship sufficiently close for their son, eventually Sir William, to suggest (obviously without much thought for the reputation of his mother, Jane,) that he might be The Bard's natural son. And it is clear that a route which took in both Banbury and Oxford passed through Deddington.

So much for known facts. Now for the speculation about the way he went through our village. If he took the old route which snaked through the Market Place, he would have by-passed Leadenporch House. But did he ? Deddington is not the obvious mid-point between Banbury or Stratford, to Oxford, to stop for refreshment; particularly if daylight was short. He probably tried to go make speed to reach his goal for the day. There was no street or road lighting and travel after dark could be dangerous.

The New Road would have been quicker, particularly on horseback, and it is therefore a legitimate assumption that, at least when riding, he would have passed Leadenporch House which had been there for some 200 years. Whether he noticed it, whether it was then the oldest house in the village, is another question or two.

STOP PRESS

More about the "other" Deddington in Tasmania !

No space this month but look out for news and developments in the March issue.

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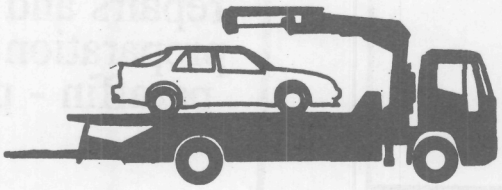

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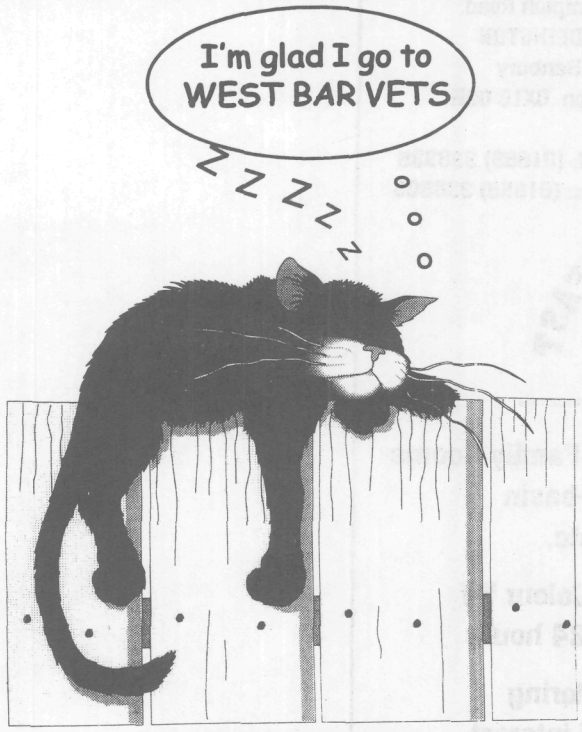

WEST BAR
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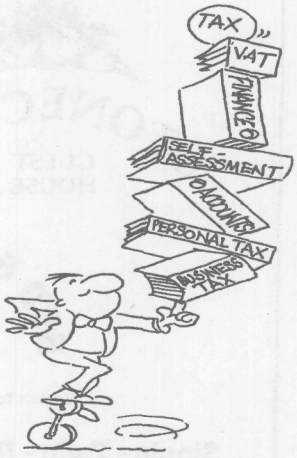

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DEDDINGTON DATA

HEALTH CENTRE DEDDINGTON		338611
Repeat prescriptions (Mon-Fri, 2-5pm)		338847
HOSPITALS		
Horton, NHS Trust	01295	275500
John Radcliffe, NHS Trust	01865	741166
Radcliffe Infirmary, NHS	01865	311188
Churchill, NHS Trust	01865	741841
Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre	01865	741155
Foscote Private Hospital	01295	252281
The Acland Private Hospital	01865	404142
Katharine House Hospice	01295	811866
SOUTHERN ELECTRICITY		
Loss of supply (24 hrs)	0345	708090
Service & Enquiries	0345	444555
Key Meter enquiries	0845	7023054
GAS ESCAPES (24 hrs)	0800	111999
GAS ENQUIRIES	0345	573247
GAS SUPPLIER INFO.	0870	6081524
THAMES WATER (24 hrs)	0645	200800
DEDDINGTON CHURCHES	See section inside	

CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL	01295	252535
PARISH CLERK (Mon & Wed)		337447
DEDDINGTON POLICE OFFICE		338444
POLICE STATION, (24hrs)	01295	252525
SOCIAL SERVICES	01295	252421
CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU.	08540	505162
NATIONAL RAIL PASSENGER ENQUIRIES		
All stations and services	0345	484950
OXFORD BUS COMPANY/ OXFORD		
EXPRESS/ PARK & RIDE	01865	785400
STAGE COACH/MIDLAND RED	01788	535555
FLIGHT LINKS/NATIONAL EXPRESS	0990	757747
All three numbers for enquiries & credit	0990	808080
card bookings	0990	898989
CHERWELL VILLAGER	01295	273086
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WARRINER SCHOOL	01295	720777

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